

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the Abstract as shown below.

Abstract

~~There is therefore a need to be able to change a front panel in a straightforward manner without requiring tools or spare parts. In order to fulfill this need, a~~ A ~~recording medium drive device of the present invention includes a body; at least signal a reading means~~device, of a ~~signal writing means~~device for writing signals to a recording medium and the signal reading ~~means~~device for reading signals provided within the body, and a front panel covering the front of the body and having an insertion/removal opening for inserting and removing the recording medium to and from the body. The front panel is supported in a freely detachable manner as a result of engagement with the body, and the engagement is achieved by moving the front panel towards the body, and a force to move the front panel away from the body acts in a direction releasing the engagement.